

stronger numerically in proportion to Christians than in the West. Roumania has 400,000, Turkey 120,000 and Bulgaria 20,000. In Asia, it is estimated, that about 200,000 exist. In Australia and the islands of the Pacific there are 20,000 Jews, and in America about 500,000.

These figures show that there are more Jews in Russia than in all the other countries of the world combined. There are only three countries in the world where legal disabilities against Jews prevail. These are Russia, Spain and Portugal.

In 1791 the French lawmakers of the Revolution enfranchised the Jews. At that time a Jew, on entering a market town had to pay a toll, just as was paid for a hog or ox. The last political disability was not removed from Jews in England until 1858. It is only within the present generation that Denmark, Austria, Germany and other countries removed the Jewish disabilities.

Russia, Spain and Portugal are the only countries which have legal discriminations against Jews. The two latter countries contain but a small number, however, as there is nothing said about persecution there, it is possible that the laws against them are not enforced. Russia of all the countries in the world maintains her middle-aged penal code against Hebrews. Alexander II liberated the Russian serfs, and acquired for himself imperishable honor. Why not Alexander III follow in the footsteps of his famous predecessor, and liberate the Jews. This step would throw his country forward hundreds of years in humanity and civilization. It would add more to his country's glory than the acquisition of Stamboul or of British India.

### THE FEELING TOWARD THE INDIANS

THE tone which the respectable and influential newspapers of the country, with few if any noteworthy exceptions, have recently adopted in treating upon Indian affairs, is in striking contrast with the sentiment which formerly prevailed. There is a more general demand for justice in their behalf, and more sweeping and severe condemnation of the treatment they have received. More sympathy for the wrongs of the Red Man, and more interest for his welfare, are being shown. There is a widespread disposition on the part of the press to relieve him from censure on account of the late Indian troubles, and place the responsibility for the latter where it belongs.

On the part of the American people and government, there is being shown a softening of feeling to-

wards the aborigines. The present head of the Indian department, Commissioner Morgan, is the friend of the Indian, and shows a desire to benefit and elevate him. That department has outlined, and to a considerable extent has pursued, a generous policy towards him, which has embraced the intention to provide schools, farming utensils, clothing and rations as fully as necessity required. If this policy has failed, its lack of success has been due to the mal-administration and dishonesty of subordinate officials, rather than a want of paternal disposition on the part of the Indian department.

### JAY GOULD'S VIEWS ON FINANCIAL INTERESTS.

THE story of Jay Gould's ride from Omaha to Chicago reads like a chapter from some oriental romance. On the 22nd inst. he left the Missouri river at 6 a. m. and arrived at Clinton, Iowa, at 1:05 p. m., a distance of 352 miles in seven hours and five minutes. From Clinton to DeKalb, 80 miles, was made in one hour and twenty minutes—just a mile a minute. Between DeKalb and Geneva, runs were made over short distances equal to 102 miles an hour. The time from Omaha to Chicago, including all stops, was nine hours and forty-five minutes.

In Chicago the ubiquitous reporter was waiting for the great little man. Mr. Gould did not try to escape the knight of the pencil, but graciously accorded an interview. The subject reviewed was the financial condition of the United States, which the magnate thinks, is better than that of any other country in the world. The worst of the Argentine panic is over. The present exportation of gold is only the normal condition of business at this season. It will help Europe now, but it will come back again to buy our securities, which will soon spring up in prices.

Gould's review of the agricultural situation is optimistic in the extreme. The outlook for crops is unusually promising. The acreage of winter wheat in Kansas and Texas was never larger. Special provision is being made in the way of transportation for the prospective crop. Old cars are being repaired and new ones constructed. The stock market is a good indication of what the future has in store. This market is going up, and its tone is confident. The operators are shrewd, and they know the condition of the country better than any other class of men. This shows that prosperity is before us.

Mr. Gould is pleased that the Legis-

latures have done nothing to cripple railroad interests, and as they do not meet for two years more, the situation is satisfactory. He thinks that the Inter-state Commerce law has wrought some good, but it has also done much harm. He thinks that pooling under government supervision should be carried out, as it is done in England. In this way alone can weak railroads be protected against the rapacity of the strong ones.

With regard to the reported cut in rates on the Missouri Pacific, Mr. Gould says the rates were filed with the Inter-State Commissioners and the law complied with. Concerning the Union Pacific, Mr. Gould says:

"Concerning the plan for refunding the Union Pacific debt I cannot say much. The plan was partially matured when I left New York, but whether it has been completed yet I do not know. I believe the bill extending the Union Pacific debt to the Government at 2½ per cent. interest will eventually be passed. The measure is perfectly fair. It insures payment of the debt. The Union Pacific has about 8000 miles of road and extensive coal properties capable of yielding a large revenue. The present lien held by the Government covers only about 1400 miles of the road. We offer a lien on the entire system."

Regarding the political situation he thinks that the Harrison administration is a good one, and is bringing prosperity to the country. Blaine and Cleveland are both good men. In fact everything and everybody is good, according to Mr. Gould. He is an optimist and a philosopher, and well he might, for he owns \$200,000,000.

### BRITISH FEDERATION.

PERHAPS, after all, the agitator in Ireland is not an unmixed evil to England. It is to him that the ventilation of the landlord system in the British Islands must be credited. The principle of federation which now prevails in all the British colonial possessions, might be attributed to the political education which a wide discussion of the question of Home Rule for Ireland has diffused. The American colonies were lost to England because of the obstinacy of her statesmen in not listening to even moderate demands for local political management.

The agitation for an Australian federation commenced eight years ago when a convention was held at Sydney. Nothing was then effected. Simply because neither the colonists, nor the English statesmen, had given the matter the consideration it deserved. But since that time a marked change has taken place. In Scotland there are several prominent newspapers advocating Home Rule for Ireland, and for the colonies as well. In Wales it is the same. In